ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL



The Baptism of the Lord

First Reading 1-5, 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it. 'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended. that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it: for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast

January 2022 and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm

- (R.) Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!
 - 1. Lord God, how great you are, clothed in majesty and glory, wrapped in light as in a robe! You stretch out the heavens like a tent. (R.)
 - 2. Above the rains you build your dwelling. You make the clouds your chariot, you walk on the wings of the wind, vou make the winds your messengers and flashing fire your servants. (R.)
 - 3. How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your riches. There is the sea, vast and wide, with its moving swarms past counting, living things great and small. (R.)
 - 4. All of these look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it, they gather it up: you open your hand, they have their fill. (R.)
 - 5. You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)

Second Reading A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this

present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia!

Gospel <u>Lk 3:15-16. 21-22</u>

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

Communion Antiphon Jn 1:32,34

Behold the One of whom John said:

I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Reflection by Scott Hahn

The liturgy last week revealed the mystery of

God's plan—that in Jesus all peoples, symbolized by the Magi, have been made "coheirs" to the blessings promised to Israel. This week, we're shown how we claim our inheritance. Jesus doesn't submit to John's baptism as a sinner in need of



purification. He humbles Himself to pass through Jordan's waters in order to lead a new "exodus"-opening up the promised land of heaven so that all peoples can hear the words pronounced over Jesus today, words once reserved only for Israel and its king: that each of us is a beloved son or daughter of God Jesus is the chosen servant Isaiah prophesies in today's First Reading, anointed with the Spirit to make things right and just on earth. God puts His Spirit upon Jesus to make Him "a covenant of the people," the liberator of the captives, the light to the nations. Jesus, today's Second Reading tells us, is the One long expected in Israel, "anointed . . . with the Holy Spirit and power."

The word messiah means "one anointed" with God's Spirit. King David was "the anointed of the God of Jacob". The prophets taught Israel to await a royal offshoot of David, upon whom the Spirit would rest

That's why the crowds are so anxious at the start of today's Gospel. But it isn't John they're looking for. God confirms with His own voice what the angel earlier told Mary: Jesus is the Son of the Most High, come to claim the throne of David forever

In the Baptism that He brings, the voice of God will hover over the waters as a fiery flame, as we sing in today's Psalm. He has sanctified the waters, made them a passageway to healing and freedom—a fountain of new birth and everlasting life.

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

Ouyen, Patchewollock, Tempy, Underbool, Walpeup Parish Administrator: Fr Anthony Nagothu (03) 5026 3068 Parish Contact Person: Faye Nihill 5092 1326

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Joe Baker, Phyllis Vallance

Sick: Terri Scott, Cora Jardine, Tristan Bush and Judi Floyd

May our healing God touch the lives of our sick bringing them comfort & peace.

Sunday 16th January – Mass – Wk 3 Ouyen: 8:30am Reader: Merril Boland Prayers of the Faithful: Peter Shaddock Offertory Procession: Shaddock Family Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections: 2nd January Ouyen \$117.00 Planned Giving: \$188.00 Bishops Christmas Appeal: \$638.10

Church Cleaning:

January: Peter & Marie Shaddock

Presbytery Cleaning:

January: Faye Nihill

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Father will be available before and after the Friday Mass for Reconciliation, after the 11:00am Masses, or at any other time by appointment.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Will resume again later in January

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

Pope's Prayer Intention for January: For true

human fraternity -We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

New Mass Timetable From February 6th

Wk 1 Patche	Mass	11:30am	1 st Friday
Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday
Wk 2 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday
Wk 3 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday
Wk 4 U'Bool	Mass	9:00am	Sunday
Ouyen	Mass	11:00pm	Sunday
Wk 5 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday

Summary of the New Covid Provisions:

*We are no longer required to check the vaccination status of those attending places of worship. *Quotient requirements are no longer in force. *Masks are mandatory at the moment but that can change so please be aware *QR code check-ins are still required.

More opportunities for Mass: each Friday at 4:00pm

Wisdom from the Saints:

"O Blessed Mary, whoever loves you honours God; whoever serves you pleases god; whoever invokes your holy name with a pure heart will infallibly receive the object of his petition." *St Bernard of Clairveaux*



<u>Columban Calendars \$10</u> – we still have 2 calendars left if anyone is after one.

Meeting of the Leadership Team and Finance Committee: Friday 21st January at 4:45pm in the Parish Centre

Summes for the Sick list: If you know of someone who would like to be prayed for via our sick list, please contact Marie. Please note, if you would like to include someone's name on the list, it is important that you have asked them and/or their family first.

Save the Date – Thursday 27th January at 5pm - Pastoral Planning for our Parishes 2021 – 2025 Looking Forward is a draft document of proposals for the future of our parishes. The Parish Leadership Team in conjunction with Fr Anthony have looked at the proposals for our region and would like to share them with the parish as a whole. To enable this, Fr Matthew Thomas (Mildura) will come and join us to discuss any benefits and concerns. Please keep this date free and see the flyer on the table where you sign in for more details.

